

A person with long dark hair, wearing a shiny, metallic, scale-like costume, is playing a mallet instrument. They are looking upwards and to the right with a slight smile. The background is dark with warm, out-of-focus lights. The overall tone is dramatic and artistic.

2027 MALLETS

IMPACT
PERCUSSION

Welcome to IMPACT Percussion!

On behalf of our administrative, design, and educational teams, thank you for your interest in participating in **IMPACT Percussion's 2027 season**. Our entire team is looking forward to another remarkable year filled with meaningful moments, personal growth, unforgettable performances, and inspiring experiences. 2027 marks our **13th season** and our first season based in the Portland, Oregon area. We can't wait to begin this exciting new chapter with **YOU!**

At IMPACT Percussion, our mission is to **empower youth to reach their full potential through achieving excellence in the performing arts**. We fulfill that mission by creating an environment that challenges performers to pursue excellence, develop their artistry, and grow both on and off the floor.

To get the most out of your **2027 audition experience**, we encourage you to bring a **positive attitude, an open mind, and a strong desire to grow**. As part of the audition process, we'll focus on both musical and visual skill sets to help you understand our approach and assess your abilities. Depending on your progress throughout the process, you may be asked to complete an **individual audition** to highlight your skills. While we'll dig deeper into our technique and approach during rehearsal camps, the following core concepts are the essential building blocks for the IMPACT Percussion Battery. Please carefully review this packet and get ready for the season. We can't wait to see you and begin this exciting new chapter together!

- *IMPACT Percussion 2027 Front Ensemble Education Team*

Audition Preparation

In addition to preparing the musical material in this packet, auditionees should be ready for an individual audition designed to showcase their skills.

Prepare a **4-mallet solo** that demonstrates your abilities beyond the material included in this packet. This is your opportunity to show us what you've got! You may also be asked to sight-read a short excerpt during your individual audition.

Auditionees should also have a basic understanding of music theory and be prepared to learn variations by rote.

Audition Process

Auditionees will be evaluated in both group and individual settings. During the group assessment, we'll work through full ensemble technique, exercises and variations, and learn an excerpt together.

Individual auditions will be approximately five minutes and may include sight-reading, your prepared 4-mallet solo, and an opportunity to demonstrate mastery of the exercises included in this packet.

Be Prepared for More Than Music

In addition to being musically prepared, set yourself up for a successful audition by bringing:

- A notebook and pencils to track comments and feedback in real time
- Comfortable and appropriate attire
- A positive attitude and a growth mindset!

Our Approach

Preparing to Play

- “Set” for the IMPACT Percussion Front Ensemble means mallets in your hands, at your sides, standing with good posture, and looking into the center.
- Mallets will always come up together. You should watch the center and match their movements to bring your mallets up to “playing position”. For IMPACT, this means over the first notes that you are about to play, and at 3/4 the height you are about to play.
- Before playing, “breathe - relax - lift” the mallets to full height to initiate the first attack. Look in through the end of the attack for timing, returning attention to your own board only after the attack has occurred.
- After playing, return to the initial playing position, and return your attention to the center. The center will break to bring their mallets down, at which time everyone will follow.

Posture

Feet

- Feet should be shoulder-width apart. You should distribute their weight in a way that they are able to comfortably shift side to side, avoiding stepping unless it’s needed for the passage.
- Vibraphone - The right foot will remain on the pedal with 1-2 inches of contact, unless there is an extended period where the pedal is not being utilized. In this case, players will default to the above. The heel of the right foot remains on the ground and acts as a pivot point. The left foot remains staggered behind, with weight evenly distributed. Pedals should not be low enough to touch the ground.

Knees

- All players will need to remember to keep their knees relaxed and not locked. Players need to be able to move around the board quickly and maintain comfort while standing for long periods of time.

Hips

- Hips should remain parallel to the keyboard, except when playing mixed manual 4-mallet passages. The hips may angle towards the board to allow comfortable access to the upper manual.

Upper Body

- The position of the upper body will change with pulsing, breathing, and performance. The default position will be standing up straight, with relaxed shoulders, square to the keyboard. The default position of the head will be with the chin held high, switching between center and your own instrument. Avoid pulling the chin too far into the chest, or hunching forward.

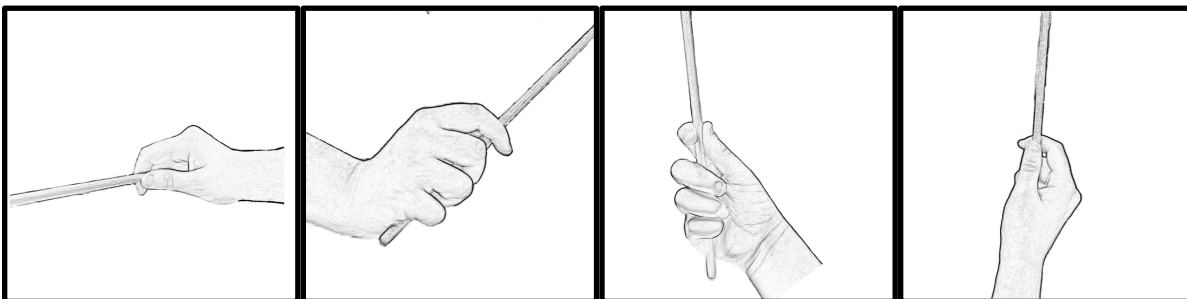
Shoulders/Arms/Wrists

- The shoulders, arms, and wrists should be as relaxed as possible while playing. Avoid pulling the shoulders up towards the ears, or hunching them forwards. The arms should be held slightly away from the body so that the elbow can move freely. The forearms should slope down slightly towards the keyboard, with the hands and wrists just high enough not to hit the keys. Keyboard height should accommodate where this point naturally sits for each player.

Grip

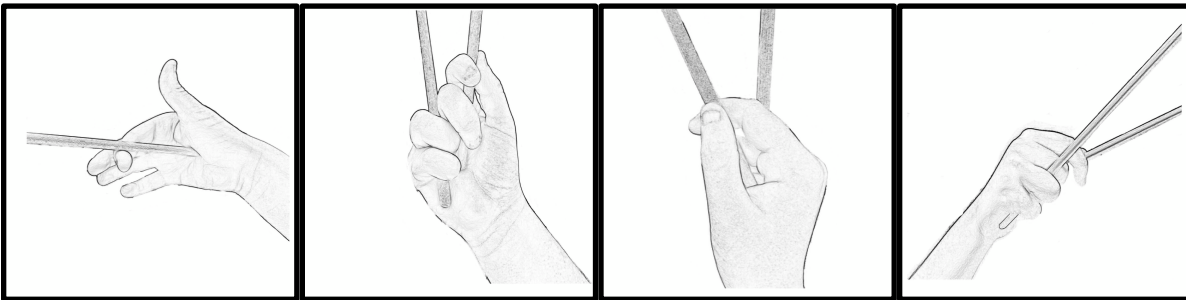
2-Mallet

- At IMPACT Percussion, we use American Grip for two-mallet. The thumbs should not face the ceiling, and the back of the hand should not be flat to the ground like we see in French and German grips. Start with your hands in German grip, then lower the outsides of the hands down, and the thumbs slightly up. Think of the first knuckle at the base of the pointer finger as the top of the hand.
- The pointer finger should extend outward, with the tip of the finger curved inward. The mallet will rest on the knuckle closest to your fingernail, with the thumb gently placed on top making a “t” shape.
- At IMPACT, we shift between fulcrum points depending on the demands of the passage. Players will need to shift between the front and back fulcrum. Front, meaning you feel the most contact with the mallet in your first three fingers, back fulcrum, meaning you feel it in the back three fingers. The back fulcrum is used for slower passages with larger sound quality, while the front fulcrum is used for lighter, faster passages.



4-Mallet

- At IMPACT Percussion, members will use Stevens grip for 4-mallet
- Outside Mallets - 1 & 4 - Hold the mallet with your ring and pinky fingers. The mallet will rest in between your middle and ring finger, sitting underneath the middle knuckle. There should be about half an inch of mallet coming out of the back.
- Inside Mallets - 2 & 3 - Place the end of the mallet in the fleshy part of your hand, under the thumb and towards the center palm. The mallet will rest on your pointer finger, inside the knuckle closest to the fingernail. Rest your thumb gently on top of the mallet, across from the knuckle on the pointer finger, making a “t” just like in 2-mallet.
- *Interval Changes* - Interval Changes are achieved by rolling the mallet between the pointer finger and thumb. The end of the mallet will follow the curve of your hand to achieve both extreme ends (2nd or 8+). Players will generally aim to hold a 4th to a 5th; otherwise, the interval should be set in accordance with the notes being played. The position of the outer mallet does not change while adjusting the interval size.



Stroke

2- Mallet

- For two mallet playing, players default will be the “Full” stroke, though all stroke types will be utilized at specified times. The mallets will be set at the top of the stroke, with the height being dependent on dynamics. The mallet will travel to the keyboard, then return to its original starting position. Before the attack, players will breathe in and release any tension in the grip before striking the board. This will result in a slight lift of the mallets. Players should strive to produce a warm and full sound out of the instrument. To achieve this, the mallets should feel heavy and relaxed in the hands.
- The wrist-to-arm ratio of our stroke will vary based on the demands of the music. For general playing, members will use 80% wrist and 20% arm for the stroke at a full dynamic. The lower the dynamic, the more wrist motion is utilized. Different music or visual goals will differentiate the approach.
- Velocity should be consistent throughout different dynamics. Players should aim for 80% of full capacity for general playing. This will vary at times based on the demands of the music. We use a consistent hand speed throughout the down and up motion of the stroke regardless of touch.

4 - Mallet

- Double Vertical Strokes - The mallets start in a straight “plane”. Think about an invisible string running through the mallet heads. The mallets move down to the keys and return to their starting point simultaneously.
- Single Independent Strokes - Each mallet will move independently. The mallets will all start in a straight plane. Then, the mallet in use will rotate down to strike the bar, and return to the starting point.
- Alternating Strokes - This is a combination of independent strokes, alternating in different patterns between inner and outer mallets. The mallets will rotate down to the bar, then return to their starting position.
- Double Lateral Strokes - Lateral strokes are the movement of mallets in sequential order. Laterals are played by initiating a single motion in the wrist and then rolling through the other mallet.
- Inner Mallet - Mallets 2 and 3 will start in a raised position, rotate down to the board, and then return to their starting point. The outer mallet will drop down to half height, where it will sit relaxed. Note, the lower the dynamic. The less the height difference will be between the outer and inner mallets.
- Rolls - There are two types of rolls we will utilize:
 - Double Vertical Rolls - Alternating double vertical strokes in a relaxed and legato manner to create an even and sustained sound
 - Lateral Rolls - Continuous Lateral Strokes (1243, 4312) to create an even and sustained sound

Performance

At IMPACT Percussion, each member has a responsibility that contributes to the success of the ensemble. That responsibility extends beyond the music to visual performance and artistry. Our goal is to bring the music to life and create a memorable connection with the audience. You may be asked to step outside of your comfort zone, and that’s okay. Effort, engagement, and positive energy are expected in every rep. **Together, we’ll make some magic happen in 2027!**

Singles

IMPACT Percussion 2027

Mallets Mlts.

Bass Guitar

Percussion

L L L ...

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

R R R ...

Cont. Through Circle of 4ths/5ths

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

L

Chromatic Octaves

IMPACT Percussion 2027

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

R R R R R R R R L L L L L L L L L L L L L L

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

R R R R R R L L L L L L L L L L L L

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

R R R R R R R R L L L L L L L L L L L L

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

R R R L L L R R R L L L R R R L L L

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R L R R L R L L

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

R L R R L R L L R L R R L R L L R L R R L R L L R

Chromatic Attack

IMPACT Percussion 2027

System 1: Key signature: C. Mlts. staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). Bass staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). Perc. staff has a common time signature and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Perc. part features a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.

System 2: Key signature: D $\flat$. Mlts. staff has a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B $\flat$, E $\flat$). Bass staff has a bass clef and a key signature of two flats (B $\flat$, E $\flat$). Perc. staff has a common time signature and a key signature of two flats (B $\flat$, E $\flat$).

System 3: Key signature: E $\flat$... Cont. Chromatically to C. Mlts. staff has a treble clef and a key signature of three flats (B $\flat$, E $\flat$, A $\flat$). Bass staff has a bass clef and a key signature of three flats (B $\flat$, E $\flat$, A $\flat$). Perc. staff has a common time signature and a key signature of three flats (B $\flat$, E $\flat$, A $\flat$).

System 4: Key signature: C. Mlts. staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). Bass staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). Perc. staff has a common time signature and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

Mlts. B

Bass B Bb

Perc. L L R R L L R R L L R R L L L L L L L L R R L L R R L L R R L L

Mlts. Bb A Cont. Chromatically to C

Bass A

Perc. B R R R R R R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L

Mlts.

Bass

Perc. R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L

Mlts.

Bass

Perc. R R L L R R L L R R L L R B

Green

IMPACT Percussion 2027

OG Green

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

4/4

R L R R L R R L R R L R R R L R R L R R L

Detailed description: This musical score is for the 'OG Green' piece. It is written for three parts: Mallets (Mlts.), Bass, and Percussion (Perc.). The time signature is 4/4. The Mlts. part features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The Bass part provides a harmonic foundation with quarter and eighth notes. The Perc. part has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, with some measures containing beamed eighth notes. The score is divided into two systems, each with two measures.

Cont. Through Circle of 4ths/5ths

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

4/4

R L L R L L R L L R L L R L L R L R

Detailed description: This musical score continues the 'OG Green' piece, titled 'Cont. Through Circle of 4ths/5ths'. It is written for the same three parts: Mlts., Bass, and Perc. The time signature remains 4/4. The Mlts. part continues the melodic line, ending with a whole note and a quarter rest. The Bass part continues the harmonic line, also ending with a whole note and a quarter rest. The Perc. part continues the rhythmic pattern, ending with a whole note and a quarter rest. The score is divided into two systems, each with two measures.

D.T. Green

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

R L R R L R L L R L R L R L R R L L R L R R L R L L R L R R

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

L R L L R L R L R L R R L L R L R R L R L L

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

R B L R B L R R L L R R L L R B L R B L R R L L R R L L R

Arpeggios

IMPACT Percussion 2027

Variation 1 - Note we will apply Major, minor, and seventh chords

First system of Variation 1, measures 1-4. The score is for three parts: Mlts. (Mallets), Bass, and Perc. (Percussion). The Mlts. part uses a treble clef and contains two measures of eighth-note triplets. The Bass part uses a bass clef and contains two measures of quarter-note triplets. The Perc. part uses a single line with a double bar line and contains two measures of eighth-note triplets, with rhythmic notation R L R R L L R L R L R R. The first measure is in C major, and the second measure is in C minor.

Second system of Variation 1, measures 5-8. The score continues for Mlts., Bass, and Perc. parts. The Mlts. part contains two measures of eighth-note triplets, with the second measure marked "Cont. Chromatically to C". The Bass part contains two measures of quarter-note triplets. The Perc. part contains two measures of eighth-note triplets with rhythmic notation R L R R L L R L R L R R. The first measure is in C major, and the second measure is in C minor.

Variation 2 - Note we will apply Major, minor, and seventh chords

First system of Variation 2, measures 1-4. The score is for three parts: Mlts., Bass, and Perc. The Mlts. part uses a treble clef and contains two measures of eighth-note triplets. The Bass part uses a bass clef and contains two measures of quarter-note triplets. The Perc. part uses a single line with a double bar line and contains two measures of eighth-note triplets, with rhythmic notation R L R L R L R L R. The first measure is in C major, and the second measure is in C minor.

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

L L R R L L R L R L R L R R L R L

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

Cont. Chromatically to C

R L R L R L R L R L R L R

Repeat From Beginning

Vertical Strokes

IMPACT Percussion 2027

C - Note we will apply Major, Minor, and Seventh Chords

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

C

R L R R L R L L R L R L R L R R L R L L R L R R L R L L

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

Db

Db

D

R L R R L R L L R L R L R L R R L R L L R L R R L R L L

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

Cont. Chromatically to C

D

Eb

R

R L R R L R L L R L R L R L R R L R L L R L R R L R L L

Sket

IMPACT Percussion 2027

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

Ab Bb C

R R R R R R R R L L L L L L L L R R R R R R R R

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

Bb Eb F

L L L L L L L L R R R R R R R R L L L L L L L L

Mlts.

Bass

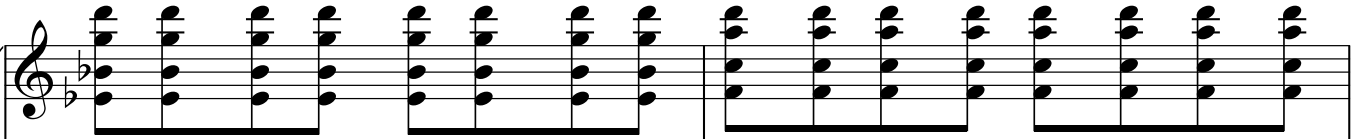
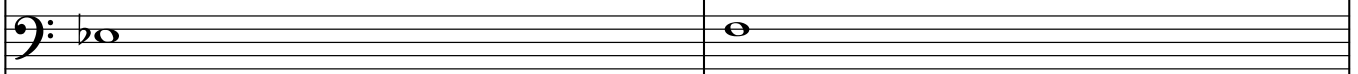
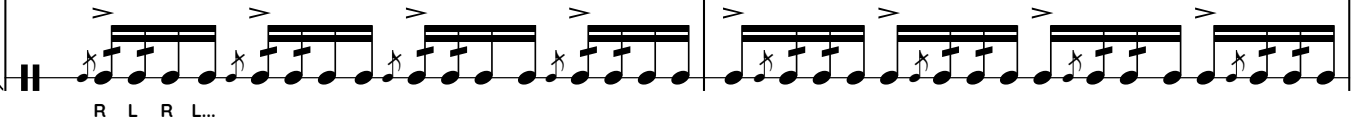
Perc.

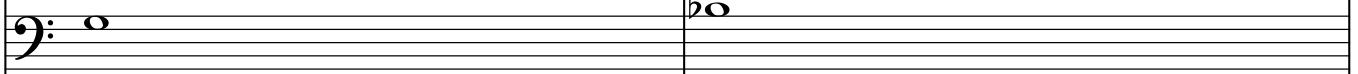
G Ab

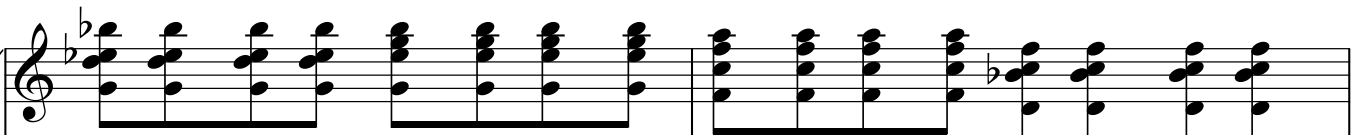
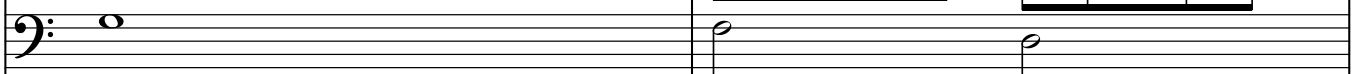
R R R R R R R R L L L L L L L L R

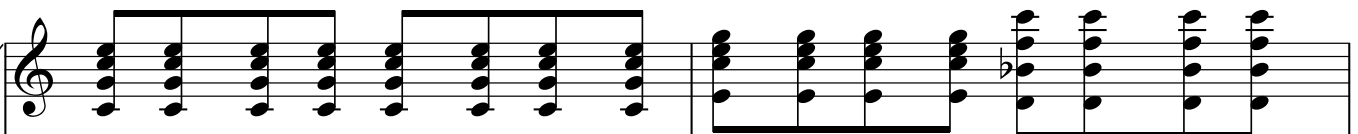
Verts

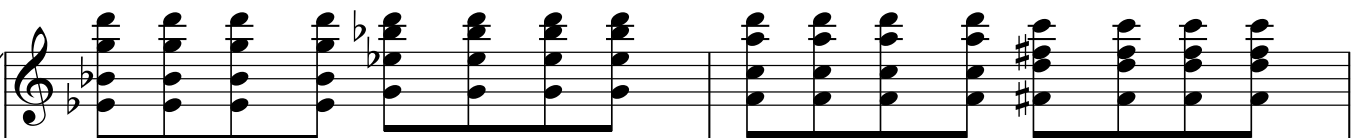
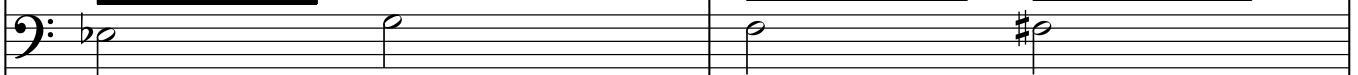
IMPACT Percussion 2027

Mlts. 
Mlts. Bass 
Perc. 
R L R L...

Mlts. 
Mlts. Bass 
Perc. 

Mlts. 
Mlts. Bass 
Perc. 

Mlts. 
Mlts. Bass 
Perc. 

Mlts. 
Mlts. Bass 
Perc. 

Mlts.

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

Mlts.

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

Mlts.

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

Mlts.

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

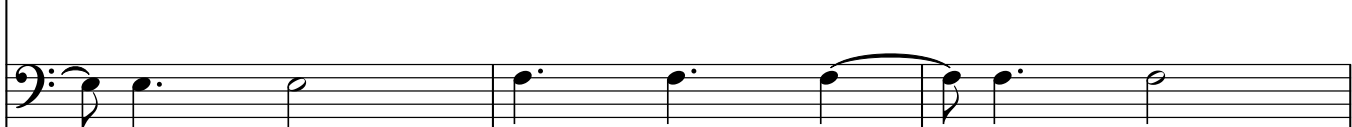
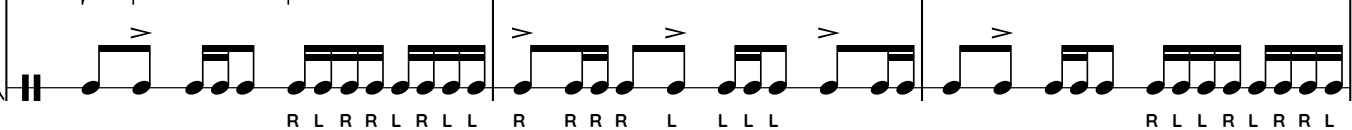
repeat through any variations

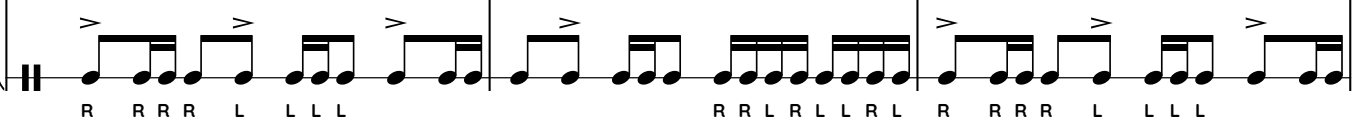
Alternating Strokes

IMPACT Percussion 2027

Mlts. 
Bass 
Perc. 
R R R R L L L L R L R L R L R L

Mlts. 
Bass 
Perc. 
R R R R L L L L R R L L R R L L R R R R L L L L

Mlts. 
Bass 
Perc. 
R L R R L R L L R R R R L L L L R L L R L R R L

Mlts. 
Bass 
Perc. 
R R R R L L L L R R L R L L R L R R R R L L L L

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

R R R L R R R L R R R L L L L R L L L R L L L

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

R R R R L L L L R R R R L L L L R R R R L L L L

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

R L R L R R L L R R R R L L L L R L R L R L R R

Mlts.

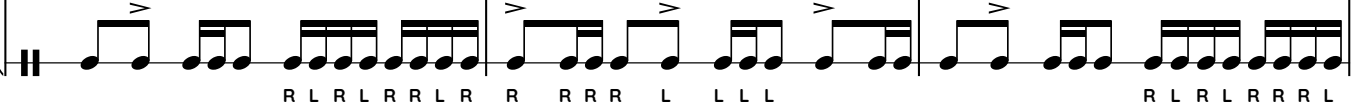
Bass

Perc.

R R R R L L L L R L R L R L L R R R R L L L L

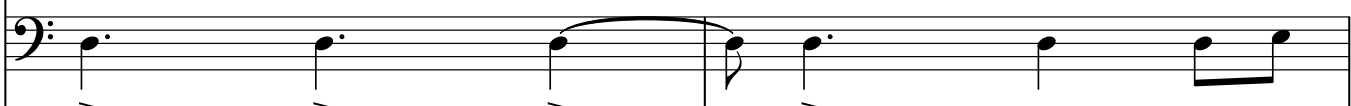
Mlts. 

 Bass 

 Perc. 

 R L R L R R L R R R R L L L L R L R L R R R L

Mlts. 

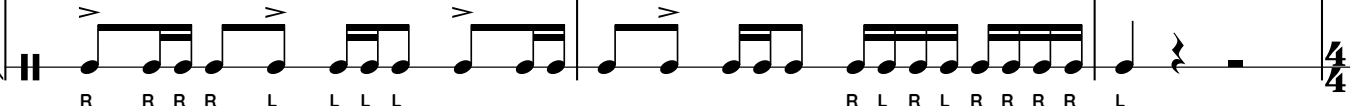
 Bass 

 Perc. 

 R R R R L L L L R L R L R L L L

Mlts. 

 Bass 

 Perc. 

 R R R R L L L L R L R L R R R R L

D.V.I.S.

IMPACT Percussion 2027

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

R....
L....
B....

The first system of the musical score for 'D.V.I.S.' consists of three staves: Mlts. (Mallets), Bass, and Perc. (Percussion). The Mlts. staff is in treble clef, Bass in bass clef, and Perc. in a simplified notation with a double bar line. The time signature is 4/4, which changes to 3/4 for the final two measures. The Mlts. part features a complex rhythmic pattern with eighth and sixteenth notes. The Bass part provides a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The Perc. part uses a combination of right (R) and left (L) mallets, with accents marked by '>' symbols. The system concludes with a double bar line.

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

The second system continues the musical score. The Mlts. staff maintains its complex rhythmic pattern. The Bass part continues with eighth notes. The Perc. part alternates between right and left mallets, with accents. The system concludes with a double bar line.

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

The third system is the final one on the page. The Mlts. staff shows a more sparse pattern in the final measures. The Bass part continues with eighth notes. The Perc. part includes a mix of right and left mallets with accents. The system concludes with a double bar line.

Laterals

IMPACT Percussion 2027

Mlts. Bass Perc.

4/4

R R R R R R R R R R R R R R L L L L L L L L

The first system of musical notation for 'Laterals' is in 4/4 time. It features three staves: Mallets (Mlts.) in treble clef, Bass in bass clef, and Percussion (Perc.) in a simplified notation. The Mlts. staff has a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The Bass staff has a bass clef and a 4/4 time signature. The Perc. staff has a simplified notation with a 4/4 time signature. The Perc. staff includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The Perc. staff includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The Perc. staff includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature.

Mlts. Bass Perc.

L L L L L L L L R L R R L R L L

The second system of musical notation for 'Laterals' is in 4/4 time. It features three staves: Mallets (Mlts.) in treble clef, Bass in bass clef, and Percussion (Perc.) in a simplified notation. The Mlts. staff has a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The Bass staff has a bass clef and a 4/4 time signature. The Perc. staff has a simplified notation with a 4/4 time signature. The Perc. staff includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The Perc. staff includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The Perc. staff includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature.

Mlts. Bass Perc.

The third system of musical notation for 'Laterals' is in 4/4 time. It features three staves: Mallets (Mlts.) in treble clef, Bass in bass clef, and Percussion (Perc.) in a simplified notation. The Mlts. staff has a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The Bass staff has a bass clef and a 4/4 time signature. The Perc. staff has a simplified notation with a 4/4 time signature. The Perc. staff includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The Perc. staff includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The Perc. staff includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature.

Mlts. Bass Perc.

R R L L

The fourth system of musical notation for 'Laterals' is in 4/4 time. It features three staves: Mallets (Mlts.) in treble clef, Bass in bass clef, and Percussion (Perc.) in a simplified notation. The Mlts. staff has a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The Bass staff has a bass clef and a 4/4 time signature. The Perc. staff has a simplified notation with a 4/4 time signature. The Perc. staff includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The Perc. staff includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The Perc. staff includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature.

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

R L R L R L R L R L R L

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

R L R L R L R L R L R L

Mlts.

Bass

Perc.

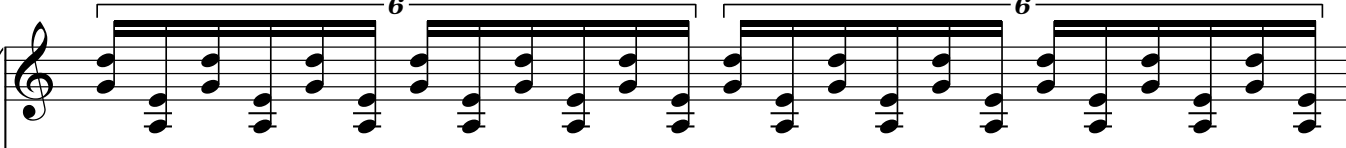
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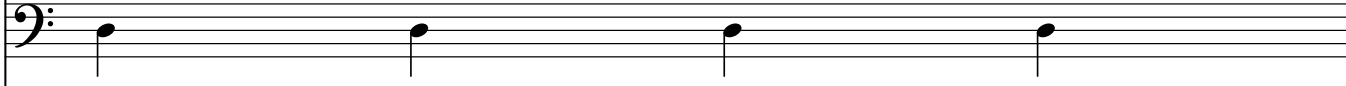
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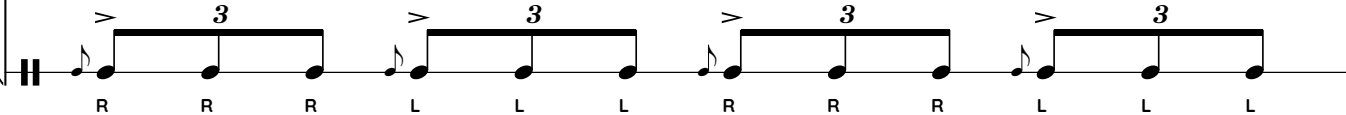
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Perc.

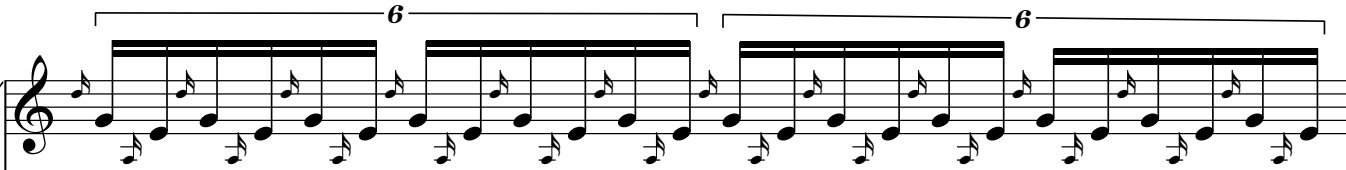
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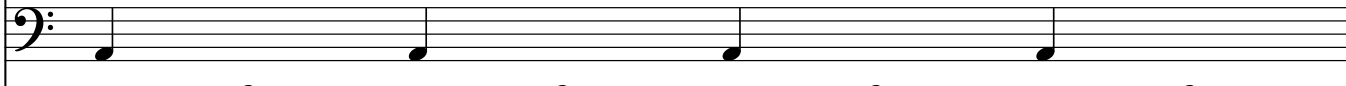
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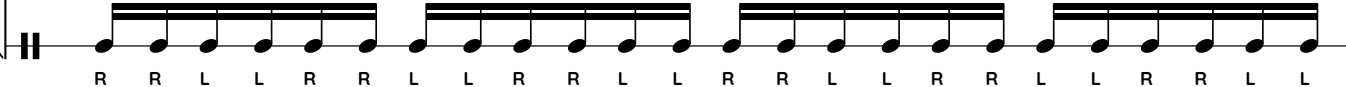
Bass 

Perc. 

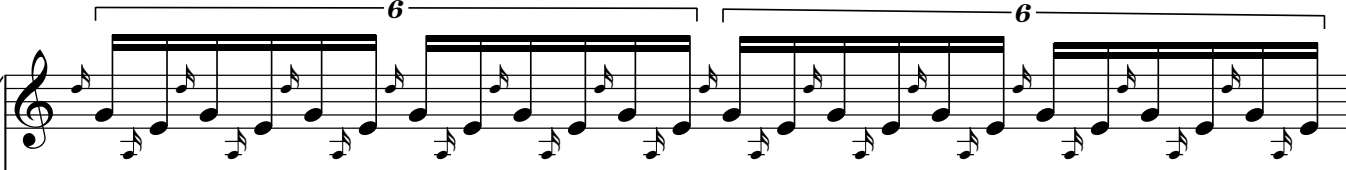
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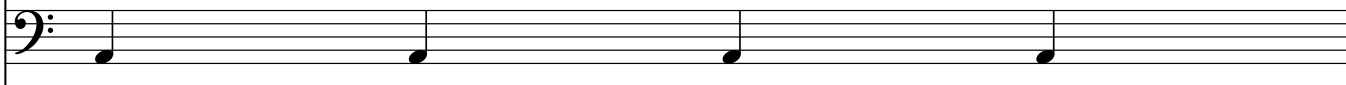
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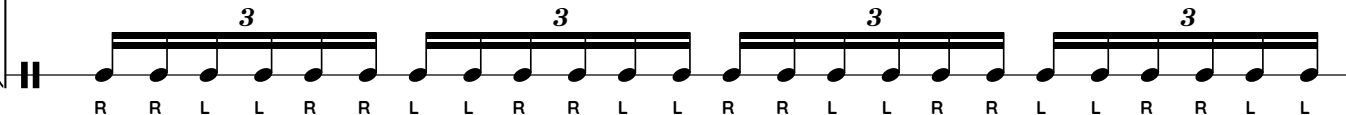
Bass 

Perc. 

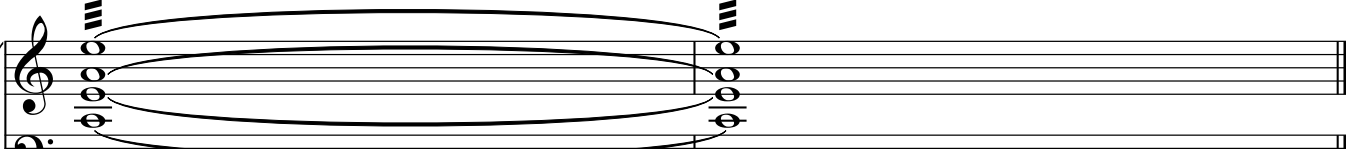
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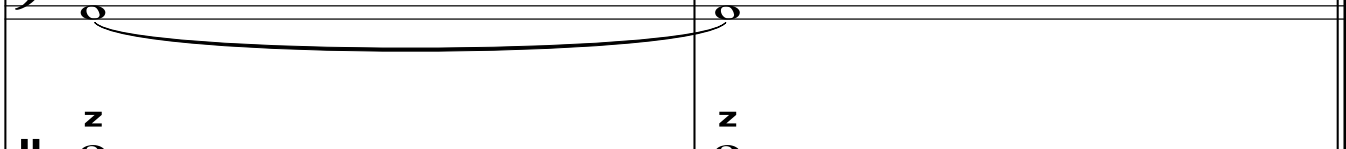
Mlts. 

Bass 

Perc. 

R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L R R L L

Mlts. 

Bass 

Perc. 

z z